

CLAIMS

1. A client device for obtaining a data object from a server device, comprising:
a transmitter for sending to the server device a request comprising a first
5 codeword and an arbitrary alphanumeric string, wherein the first codeword
indicates that the alphanumeric string should be interpreted at the server as a
search string; and
a receiver for receiving from the server device, in reply to the request, a data
object comprising the arbitrary alphanumeric string.
- 10 2. A client device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the request additionally
comprises a second codeword indicating a database to be searched by the
server.
- 15 3. A client device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the request additionally
comprises a third codeword indicating the memory location of the database to
be searched by the server.
- 20 4. A client device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the request comprises a GET
command comprising a header that includes the first codeword and the
arbitrary alphanumeric string, wherein the first codeword indicates that the
alphanumeric string should be interpreted at the server as a search string and
not as a filename.
- 25 5. A client device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the arbitrary alphanumeric
string follows but is separated from the first codeword.
6. A client device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the header additionally
comprises a second codeword indicating the database to be searched.

7. A client as claimed in claim 6, wherein the first codeword follows but is separated from the second codeword and the arbitrary alphanumeric string follows but is separated from the first code word.

5 8. A client device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the header additionally comprises a third codeword indicating the memory location of the database to be searched by the server.

10 9. A client device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first codeword is 'search'.

10. A client device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the second codeword is one of 'pb', 'cal' and 'msg'.

15 11. A client device as claimed in claim 8 wherein the third codeword comprises one of 'SIM' or 'file'.

20 12. A client device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the alphanumeric string is followed by an extension that specifies the type of data object received from the server.

13. A client device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the received data object is a vcard comprising the arbitrary alphanumeric string.

25 14. A client device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the received data object is a vcalendar comprising the arbitrary alphanumeric string.

15. A client device as claimed in claim 1, comprised in an accessory to the server device.

30 16. A client device as claimed in claim 1 comprised in an accessory to a mobile cellular telephone.

17. A method of obtaining a data object from a server device, comprising:
composing a request comprising a predetermined first codeword and an
arbitrary alphanumeric string, wherein the first codeword indicates that the
alphanumeric string should be interpreted at the server as a search string;
5 sending the composed request to the server device; and
receiving from the server device, in reply to the request, a data object
comprising the arbitrary alphanumeric string.
- 10 18. A server device for providing a data object to a client device, comprising:
a receiver for receiving from the client device a request comprising a first
codeword and an arbitrary alphanumeric string;
parsing means for parsing the request;
detection means for detecting the presence of the first codeword in the
15 request;
search means for searching a database comprising data objects to obtain a
data object comprising the alphanumeric search string; and
a transmitter for transmitting to the client device, in reply to the request, the
obtained data object.
- 20 19. A server device as claimed in claim 18, further comprising a user interface
for user specification of a search string and for displaying a data object,
wherein the search means is arranged to search the database to obtain a
data object, comprising the user specified search string, for display in the user
25 interface.
20. A server device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the request additionally
comprises a second codeword indicating the database to be searched and
30 wherein the search means is arranged to search the database indicated by
the second codeword.

21. A server device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the request additionally comprises a third codeword indicating the memory location of the database to be searched and wherein the search means is arranged to search at a memory location indicated by the third codeword.

5

22. A server device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the request comprises a GET command comprising a header that includes the predetermined first codeword and the arbitrary alphanumeric string and the parsing means is arranged to parse the header.

10

23. A server device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the header additionally comprises a second codeword indicating the database to be searched and wherein the search means is arranged to search the database indicated by the second codeword.

15

24. A server device as claimed in claim 23, wherein the header additionally comprises a third codeword indicating the memory location of the database to be searched and wherein the search means is arranged to search at a memory location indicated by the third codeword.

20

25. A server device as claimed in claim 18, incorporated within a mobile cellular telephone.

26. A method of providing a data object to a client device, comprising:

25 receiving from the client device a request comprising a first codeword and an arbitrary alphanumeric string;

if the first codeword is in a received request, searching a database comprising data objects, using the alphanumeric string as a search string, to obtain a data object comprising the alphanumeric search string; and

30 transmitting from the server device, in reply to the request, the obtained data object.